

This is the third extended memoir on Galapagos Islands birds published within the last seven years, each based on extensive material, and each marking an important advance in our knowledge of this peculiarly interesting ornis. In the memoir now under review there is no reference to previous work in the same field, beyond the bibliographical citations under the species and in the general text. Some reference to the general history of the subject, and some statement of their opportunities and resources, and of the results reached, would have been a good addition to this important contribution to the literature of Galapagan ornithology.—J. A. A.

Shufeldt on the Osteology of the Halcyones and Limicolæ.—In the 'American Naturalist' for October, 1903, Dr. Shufeldt devotes considerable space to a consideration of the Kingfishers,¹ with reference to their osteology and systematic position. It is in the main an amplification of his paper on the 'Osteology of *Ceryle alcyon*,' published in 1884 (Journ. Anat. and Phys., XVIII, 1884, pp. 279-294, pl. xiv), with the same illustrations, here reproduced in half-tone. The structure of this species is compared with allied forms, but not much new light is thrown upon the relationships of the group, nor is any very positive opinion advanced as to its nearest affinities, though believed by the author to be most nearly related to the Galbulidæ, an opinion shared by previous writers on the subject.

Respecting his paper on the osteology of the Limicolæ,² his own opinion is to the effect that "it is probably the most extensive contribution to the osteology and taxonomy of the Limicolæ that has appeared from the pen of any writer on the subject up to the present time." The 'skeletalogy' of each of the principal types is described in considerable detail, the paper closing with a synopsis of their leading osteological characters, and a review of their affinities. The Limicolæ are regarded as a suborder of the Charadriiformes, and are divided into eight families, which correspond to those adopted in the A. O. U. Check-List, except that the subfamily Arenariinæ of the Check-List is given the rank of a family.—J. A. A.

Evans's 'Turner on Birds.'³—This is a republication, with translation

¹ On the Osteology and Systematic Position of the Kingfishers. (Halcyones.) By R. W. Shufeldt. Amer. Nat., Vol. XXXVII, Oct. 1903, pp. 697-725, figs. 1-3.

² Osteology of the Limicolæ, By Dr. R. W. Shufeldt. Ann. Carnegie Mus., Vol. II, 1903, pp. 15-70, pl. i, and 27 text figures.

³ Turner on Birds: | a short and succinct history | of the | principal birds noticed by Pliny and Aristotle, | first published by | Doctor William Turner, 1544. | Edited, with Introduction, Translation, Notes, and Appendix, | by | A. H. Evans, M. A. | Clare College, Cambridge. | Cambridge: | At the University Press | 1903—Svo, pp. i-xviii, 1 l. (transcript of original title page) + pp. 1-223.